

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of manufacturing a golf ball comprising:
 - a first step of forming a bowl-shaped half shell from a thermoplastic resin composition;
 - a second step of putting two half shells and a solid core covered with the half shells in a mold including upper and lower portions, each of which has a hemispherical cavity, in a state in which the mold is opened;
 - a third step of clamping the mold;
 - a fourth step of heating the thermoplastic resin composition in a spherical cavity formed by the mold clamping and pressurizing the thermoplastic resin composition at a pressure of 5 kgf/cm² to 50 kgf/cm², and causing the excessive thermoplastic resin composition to flow out of the spherical cavity; and
 - a fifth step of heating the thermoplastic resin composition in the spherical cavity and pressurizing the thermoplastic resin composition at a pressure of 70 kgf/cm² or more, and forming a cover,
wherein a total volume of the two half shells put at the second step is set to be 105% to 120% of a volume of the cover.
2. The method of manufacturing a golf ball according to claim 1, wherein a difference (T₂ - T_s) between the highest temperature T₂ of the mold and a softening point T_s of the thermoplastic resin composition through the fourth and fifth steps is 30°C to 80°C.
3. The method of manufacturing a golf ball according to claim 2, wherein a transition from the fourth step to the fifth step is carried out within a period of 30 seconds before and after the mold reaches the highest temperature T₂.
4. The method of manufacturing a golf ball according to claim 1, wherein a difference (T_s - T₁) between a softening point T_s of the thermoplastic resin composition and a temperature T₁ of the mold at time of start of the fourth step is 15°C or more.
5. The method of manufacturing a golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the cover formed at the fifth step has a nominal

thickness of 0.3 mm to 1.0 mm.